

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

**ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

5 NOVEMBER 1963
~~**TOP SECRET**~~

1. Berlin

a. The US convoy is still detained. There is nothing to indicate when it will be released.

b. As yet there has been no buildup of Communist forces noted



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2. South Vietnam

a. The military holds the reins of the new provisional government announced yesterday.

b. Executive and legislative powers are centered in the Revolutionary Military Council, whose Chairman, General Duong Van Minh, assumes the authority of chief of state.

c. Governmental powers, other than those concerned with budgetary, tax, national defense and security matters, are being delegated to the provisional government whose premier is former Vice President Nguyen Ngoc Tho.

d. Tho's cabinet consists mainly of civilian technicians with experience in sub-ministerial posts

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under Diem. Generals hold the key posts of national defense, information and public security; the latter is in the hands of General Ton That Dinh.

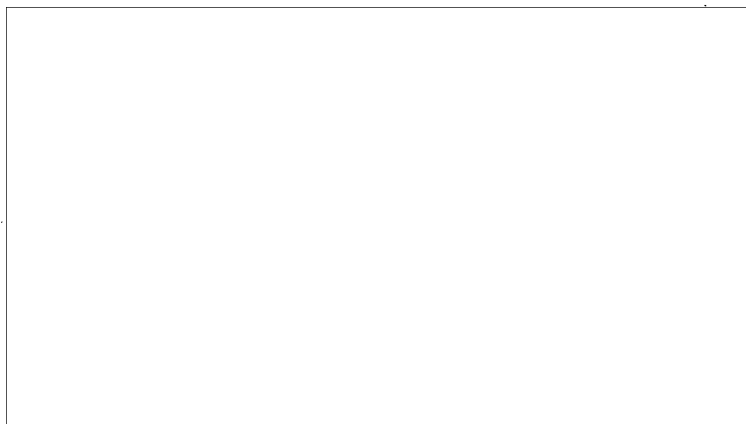
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e. It looks as though some prominent civilians, including Diem's former Foreign Minister Vu Van Mau, refused to participate in the new cabinet.

f. Madame Nhu's children are on the way to Rome and she plans to leave for there this afternoon. Diem's brother Can, who approached our consulate at Hué, has been turned over to the regime after assurances that he would receive due process of law. Labor leader Tran Quoc Buu was released by the new government early this morning.

3. Yemen

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e. Yemeni President Sallal is in serious condition following heart attacks on Thursday and Friday of last week. He has been flown to Cairo for treatment. [REDACTED]

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4. Algeria-Morocco

a. The cease-fire may finally have come into being with the arrival of a Malian observer at the front. He is to be followed shortly by another Malian and two Ethiopians.

b. Haile Selassie has again urged Hassan and Ben Bella to observe the cease-fire. [REDACTED] the African foreign ministers' conference would probably be convened in Addis Ababa in about two weeks. The conference is to appoint a commission to fix responsibility for the hostilities and to submit proposals for a settlement.

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c. Selassie arrived in Cairo yesterday from Belgrade to discuss the border fighting with Nasir.

5. USSR-Laos

a. Souvanna has told French diplomats in Moscow that the Russians have agreed to stop sending military shipments to the Pathet Lao through Hanoi.

b. He said the USSR is annoyed at the North Vietnamese practice of appropriating these modern arms for themselves and forwarding to the Pathet Lao inferior and obsolete substitutes from their own stocks.

c. The Laotian Premier also claimed that the Soviet leaders had shown a willingness, as they had to Kong Le, to supply amphibious tanks, planes, and light arms to the neutralists.

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6. Communist
China

a. Peiping radio has announced that the National Peoples Congress will meet on 16 November.

b. The Congress, a large rubber-stamp group roughly similar to the Russian Supreme Soviet, used to be an annual forum for boasting about the government's achievements. However, the last session in April 1962 was held for the most part in secret.

c. Foreign Minister Chen I has said the Congress will discuss the success of efforts to "readjust" the economy and "a new national economic program." The latter may mean a stretch out of the existing Five Year Plan (1963-67).

d. Several top Chinese leaders, including Mao Tse-tung, are currently in Shanghai where they are probably meeting to thrash out the line for the upcoming Congress.

7. Yugoslavia

a. Tito got back home last Friday and said some fairly nice things about his US visit.

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b. Our embassy, recalling the early post-Cuba days when Tito focused on the "peace-loving qualities of Khrushchev," thinks it important that he has come out with the public statement that "Mr. Kennedy also wants peace to be strengthened and preserved."

c. While noting that Tito's views on the US are subject to constant change, the embassy reports that, as of now, his Washington trip has helped him to get a realistic picture of the US role in world affairs.

8. Indonesia

a. First Minister Djuanda claims his government is convinced that British intelligence engineered a recent series of incidents involving time bombs and grenades aimed at strategic military installations in Indonesia. Djuanda said news of these incidents has been closely held.

b. He told Ambassador Jones that the memory of foreign support to the rebels in 1958 was still fresh in Indonesian minds and that there was considerable suspicion that Americans were also involved in the current incidents.

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c. The ambassador denied US involvement, doubted British participation and suggested that provocation was a more likely answer. He reminded Djuanda of past Communist forgeries and tactics designed to implicate the US in subversive actions in Indonesia.

NOTES

A. Cuba-Brazil Cuban Ambassador Roa in Rio de Janeiro
[redacted] efforts to
befriend Brazilian President Goulart have failed.

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